

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 AMMAN 02572 040829Z

15

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /031 W

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O 040812Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1284

INFO USDEL ALEXANDRIA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

USINT DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T AMMAN 2572

EXDIS

S/S FOR ATHERTON AND SISCO

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: MASS, JO, SA

SUBJECT: FMS CREDIT FOR JORDAN

REFS: (A) AMMAN 2515 (NOTAL)

(B) STATE 090865 (NOTAL) (TOSEC 171)

(C) DAMASCUS 0559 (NOTAL) (SECTO 131)

1. RE PARA TWO REFTEL (B) (PARA ONE REFTEL C REFERS), BOS BIN SHAKER HAS JUST RETURNED FROM VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA. PRIME MINISTER RIFAI INFORMED ME THAT SAUDIS CONFIRMED TO HIM THEIR WILLINGNESS TO FUND \$30 MILLION IN FY 75 FMS CREDIT ALONG LINES OF REPORTS IN PREVIOUS CABLES. RIFAI ASKED THAT SECRETARY'S PARTY ALSO CONFIRM THIS WITH SAUDIS SO THAT EACH UNDERSTANDS NATURE AND EXTENT OF THEIR COMMITMENT. FROM THESE REPORTS, JORDANIANS ARE NOW CONVINCED THAT SAUDIS WILL PROVIDE SUCH ASSISTANCE.

2. RE PARA TWO REFTEL (C), IN VIEW OF SHORTNESS OF TIME BEFORE PARTY'S ARRIVAL AND PREOCCUPATION OF GOJ WITH NUMBER OF OTHER QUESTIONS, WE MAY NOT HAVE CHANCE TO
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EXPLORE IN PRELIMINARY FASHION NATURE OF UNDERSTANDING

WE COULD REACH WITH GOJ ON SOURCE AND MODALITIES OF FUNDING OF FMS CREDIT. NEVERTHELESS, AMBASSADOR WILL LOOK FORWARD TO DISCUSSION WITH ATHERTON ON THIS QUESTION AND HOPE TO HAVE A PROPOSAL WHICH WE MIGHT THEN PURSUE FORTHER WITH GOJ NEXT WEEK. WE ARE A LITTLE RELUCTANT TO PROCEED TOO FAR WITH GOJ ON FIRING UP SAUDI FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS BEFORE FMS CREDITES ARE ACTUALLY APPROVED BY CONGRESS AND ALLOCATED TO JORDAN PROGRAM.

3. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO CONSIDER SENDING THIS AND OTHER APPROPRIATE REFTELS TO JIDDA FOR AMBASSADOR AKINS' INFORMATION AND COMMENT PRIOR TO ARRIVAL OF SECRETARY'S PARTY. PICKERING

SECRET

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY CREDIT, MILITARY SALES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974AMMAN02572
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740107-1114
From: AMMAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740574/aaaacogg.tel
Line Count: 74
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: (A) AMMAN 2515 (NOTAL)
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13-Aug-2002 by rowelle0>; APPROVED <14 JAN 2003 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FMS CREDIT FOR JORDAN
TAGS: MASS, JO, SA, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005